RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 27th February, 2008/8 *Phalguna*, 1929 (*Saka*)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

RE. QUESTION HOUR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 21 ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, allow the Question Hour to proceed ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Sir, we want Question Hour ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This behaviour of the hon. Members is unbecoming of the Members of this House ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, allow the Question Hour to proceed ...*(Interruptions)*...

This behaviour is unbecoming of the Members of this House ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA (Maharashtra): Sir, Question no. 21 ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, resume your seats ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Darda, please, put your question.

SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Sir, Question no. 21 ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This behaviour is unbecoming of the Members of Rajya Sabha ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Sir, we want Question Hour ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 12.00 o'clock.

The House then adjourned at five minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House re-assembled at Twelve of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Personnel of BSF leaving their jobs

*21. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 40,000 personnel of Border Security Force have left their jobs much before the scheduled retirement during 2005-07;

(b) if so, whether a holistic study of such large scale exodus of trained paramilitary personnel has been made; and

(c) whether sanctioned strength of 2,10,261 BSF personnel, available to guard our borders, is adequate especially in view of the belligerent neighbouring countries across the borders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) According to available information, 7395 BSF personnel have left the organization on voluntary retirement or resignation during the period 2005-07. Some of the main reasons are:—

* Posting in remote areas and stressful working conditions
* Prolonged period of separation from family
* Personal and domestic compulsions
* Perceived inadequate compensation
* Availability of alternative employment opportunities nearer home.

(c) The requirement of personnel for guarding our borders is reviewed from time to time and augmentation of the Force is approved by the Government whenever required. Additional 157 Coys were raised in BSF following the recommendations of the Group of Ministers on Reforming the National Security System. Deployment of newly raised battalions of CRPF has also helped in releasing BSF battalions from counter insurgency duties for border guarding duties.

Increasing working days under NREG Scheme

†*22. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been made mandatory to provide 100 working days employment to a labourer under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 100 working days are not proving sufficient to solve the financial predicament of labourers in a year of 365 days;

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(e) whether Government will consider to increase the number of working days from 100 to 150?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The aim of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is to provide for the enhancement of livelihood security of the rural households by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work, NREGA is demand based. Under the Act, employment is provided to a wage seeker for the number of days of employment demanded subject to an over all ceiling of 100 days per household in a financial year.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi